

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 SAN SA 03517 272032Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00
PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 DHA-02 H-01 SS-15
NSC-05 /055 W
-----101115 280541Z /10

R 271810Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5023
AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA
USCINCSO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SAN SALVADOR 3517

EO 11652: NA
TAGS: PINT, ES
SUBJ: "CHELE" MEDRANO ATTACKS FOREIGN MINISTER MARTINEZ

REFS: A) SAN SALVADOR 3490 (NOTAL) B) SAN SALVADOR 3480
(NOTAL) C) SAN SALVADOR 3460 (NOTAL)

1. GEN ALBERTO "CHELE" MEDRANO, IN COMMENTS PUBLISHED
IN THE DAIRIO DE HOY OF JULY 26 (SEE REFTEL C FOR TEXT),
HARSHLY CRITICIZED FOREIGN MINISTER MARTINEZ' REACTION
TO AMBASSADOR LOZANO'S STATEMENT BEFORE THE FRASER
SUBCOMMITTEE (MARTINEZ' COMMENTS ARE REPORTED REFTELS).
"CHELE" MEDRANO WAS THE HERO OF THE 1969 WAR WITH
HONDURAS AND SUBSEQUENTLY A PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE OF
THE RIGHT WING IN THE 1972 ELECTIONS. NOW RETIRED, HE
FIGURED IN RUMORS OF COUP PLOTTING DURING THE LAST
DAYS OF MOLINA'S PRESIDENCY. MEDRANO CRITICIZED
MARTINEZ FOR RESORTING TO "AD HOMINEM" ARGUMENTS
AGAINST LOZANO. HE SUGGESTED THAT THE MINISTER'S
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 SAN SA 03517 272032Z

INABILITY TO COMMENT ON THE SUBSTANCE OF LOZANO'S
REMARKS, E.G., ON AGRARIAN REFORM, IS BECAUSE THE
MINISTER IS OUT OF TOUCH WITH SALVADORAN REALITY
AFTER HIS LONG ABSENCE ABOARD IN THE DIPLOMATIC
SERVICE.

2. RUMORS OF DISSATISFACTION AMONG BOTH MILITARY

AND CONSERVATIVE CIRCLES AT SOME OF ROMERO'S CABINET APPOINTMENTS HAVE BEEN CIRCULATING FOR SOME WEEKS. RESENTMENT HAS SEEMED TO FOCUS ON FOREIGN MINISTER MARTINEZ, ON PLANNING MINISTER CHICO DUARTE, A HOLDOVER FROM THE MOLINA GOVERNMENT WHO IS ASSOCIATED IN CONSERVATIVE CIRCLES WITH THE ISTA PROJECT, AND ON VICE PRESIDENT AND MINISTER OF THE PRESIDENCY JULIO ASTACIO. OPPOSITION IN SOME MILITARY CIRCLES TO VICE PRESIDENT ASTACIO WAS STRONG ENOUGH TO RAISE CONSIDERABLE DOUBT IN JUNE THAT HE WOULD BE GIVEN A CABINET POSITION. MEDRANO'S ATTACK ON MARTINEZ MAY SIGNAL THE EMERGENCE INTO THE OPEN OF A CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE FOREIGN MINISTER, AND INDIRECTLY, DUARTE AND ASTACIO.

3. FOREIGN MINISTER TOLD ME HE HAD REFUSED TO RESPOND TO PRESS REQUEST FOR COMMENT ON MEDRANO'S REMARKS. HE FELT GETTING INTO A POLEMIC WITH MEDRANO WOULD BE OF NO USE. BESIDES, HE SAID, MEDRANO DID NOT HAVE THE QTE MORAL AUTHORITY UNQTE TO MAKE SUCH REMARKS WHICH HE WOULD THEREFORE NOT DIGNIFY WITH A RESPONSE.

LUBENSKY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, US CONGRESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS, LAND REFORMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 27-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977SANS03517
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770270-0060
Format: TEL
From: SAN SALVADOR
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770713/aaaaalhd.tel
Line Count: 84
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: eb0bf762-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 SAN SALVADOR 3490, 77 SAN SALVADOR 3480
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1733489
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: "CHELE" MEDRANO ATTACKS FOREIGN MINISTER MARTINEZ
TAGS: PINT, SOPN, PGOV, EAGR, ES, (LOZANO, IGNACIO E JR), (MARTINEZ, ALVARO ERNESTO), (MEDRANO, ALBERTO)
To: STATE GUATEMALA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/eb0bf762-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009